

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 1

MAY, 1979.

Here is something that we think you'll find of interest. This issue is being distributed to those on our mailing list, and to those who have requested it.

Hopefully, you will think enough of the Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist to subscribe. Here is what we hope to bring to you each month:

- 1) Editorials
- 2) Articles

These will be by staff and other contributors.

- 3) Reports on new issues
- 4) Reports on new discoveries

These will depend mainly on our readers for contributions.

- 5) Prices realized at recent auctions and mail bids

We will report on only older tokens, and those items selling for over \$5.00

- 6) Coin Club News

Clubs and societies in the state are welcome to submit meeting announcements and other news of interest at no charge.

This is a trial issue only. Subscription rates for the next two issues will be \$1.00, U.S. funds to the U.S. and Canada. Send no money now. You will be billed when we send out the 2nd issue.

Please send us a post card if you want to receive the next two issues. If we do not hear from you, you will not receive it. If the response is not great enough, we will just end this experiment with this issue.

One way to let us know that you want this publication to continue would be to send in a contribution. We offer the following incentives for your contributions:

- 1) For a short article or editorial (one column in length) you will receive the next 2 issues.
- 2) For a new discovery, you will receive the next issue.
- 3) For 2 new issues, you will receive the next issue.

New discoveries and new issues must be unknown to us at ATC&PN. "Payment" will not be made unless the item is used.

With a little luck, only those who do not wish to contribute will have to pay for a subscription. And, hopefully, there will be enough of those to pay for the postage.

Enough of this. On with the show.

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Fairbanks, AK 99707

EDITORIAL

We at MGA, Inc. feel that this is the time to launch this publication. The response to our mail list has been very gratifying. We feel that ~~ATC&TK~~ is desired by those who collect Alaskan tokens. We feel that it will help to generate more interest in Alaskan tokens.

The final judge will be you. Do you want to receive this publication? Is it a worthwhile publication?

And, if the answer to the above two questions is "Yes", are you willing to pay for it? This can be in cash, or with your contributions.

The contributions are what we would like to stress. There will be people who cannot contribute, due to lack of time or due to where they live. At present, for every paid subscriber, we can have one contributor.

So, let us hear from you. Tell us what you think. And by all means, send in your contributions to be sure that there is a second issue.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ALL THOSE TOKENS?

This is basically a good question. All of us have heard about the merchant who threw his tokens in the river when the Feds told him he couldn't use them any more.

Well, what about the tokens of Gil McIntyre of Eek, Alaska?

According to his grandsons, Chuna and Gilbert (the boys are cousins, not brothers), the tokens were in use until the early 1960's. When they were retired from use, they were given to the children to play

with and were lost in the Tundra.

Also according to Chuna and Gilbert, their grandfather was originally from Wisconsin, and he married an Eskimo woman.

FAIRBANKS COIN CLUB TO HONOR PIONEER MERCHANT ANDREW NERLAND.

The subject of this year's Alaskan Pioneer series medal, by the Fairbanks Coin Club will be Andrew Nerland, founder of Nerland's furniture stores.

Mr. Nerland came to Alaska via the Chilkoot Trail and Dawson, Yukon Territory. The family business has expanded to stores in Fairbanks, Anchorage, Hawaii, and a new store in Seattle.

These medals, shown below, will be struck by V.H. Blackinton of Attleboro Falls, MA. A total of 225 matched, numbered sets in silver and bronze, and 200 single bronze will be minted.

They should be available from the Club (or from NSA Inc.) by the end of June.



COIN CLUB NEWS

Fairbanks Coin Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month, except June, July, and August, when only one meeting is held on the 1st Wed. Meeting time is 8PM and it is held in the Dawson Room above Nerland's, entrance on 4th Ave.

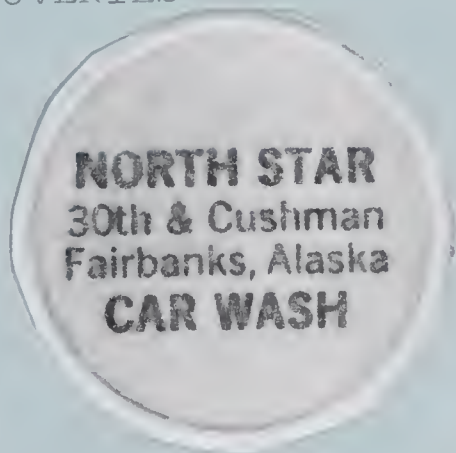
This is the only available listing for this issue. If you know of a Club, send in their meeting times and we'll list them. In the future when we are on a regular publication schedule, we will use the actual dates.

NSA TOKEN LIST UP-DATE

The following items are sold out:

021,022,036,054,065,066,076,077,
079,103,114,117,123,128,129,137,
142,146,148,167,172,182,183,188,
205,221,222,223,323.

NEW DISCOVERIES



FAIRBANKS: North Star (Truck Stop)
Set of 2 Car Wash Tokens. Both
Plastic with black lettering. Wash
token is red, Wash and Wax is blue.
Wax is very scarce at present.

NEW DISCOVERIES CONTINUED:



FAIRBANKS: North Star Truck Stop.
Set of 2 Car Wash woods. Wash is
red, and Wash and Wax is green.

North Star Truck Stop apparently
went out of business April, 1978,
and the Car Wash was last in oper-
ation in the fall of 1977.

NEW ISSUES:



FAIRBANKS: The Courtney Court, Good
Luck token in brass. Available from
The Courtney Court, 249 Illinois St.,
along with 2 wooden nickels, for
\$1.00 plus Stamped, self-addressed
envelope. (Fairbanks, AK 99701)

This space is available for new is-
sues, new discoveries, or Coin Club
news. Let us hear from you for
future issues.

ALASKAN TOKEN

COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

JUNE, 1979.

VOLUME I, NUMBER 2

Here is the 2nd issue of ATC&PN. Response to the first was not as great as we had hoped.

This is where we find out who ~~real~~ really wants to receive this publication. To receive the 3rd issue, please send \$1. If you do not send \$1, or send in a contribution, you will not receive the 3rd issue.

Contributions are as stated in the first issue:

- 1) For a short article or editorial (one column in length) you will receive the next 2 issues.
- 2) For a new discovery, you will receive the next issue.
- 3) For 2 new issues, you will receive the next issue.

If you think that \$1 is high, consider the fact that the first two are free, if you don't want the third. The \$1 for the third issue is to offset the cost of the first two issues.

Subscription rate will be \$1 for 3 issues. Hopefully, they will come not costless, but that depends on the contributions. You will be billed for \$4-5 with the 3rd issue if we keep going.

EDITORIAL

Reports come to us from John Calhoun, Post Falls, Idaho about an Alaskan token bringing \$295.00 in his mail bid auction. This token was D-5, The Bank, Harry and Fred, from Nome.

This brings the question to mind, are things getting out of hand?

That is a hefty piece of cash to pay for a small piece of aluminum.

But what we are seeing in the Alaskan token market is an example of a true free market. Prices are set by supply and demand.

Here was one token, definitely a limited supply, being offered for sale to the highest bidder. What fairer way of deciding who would be the next owner? Whoever was willing to pay the most got it.

If memory serves us, we saw 3 items break the \$400 mark in an PCGA (now defunct) floor auction over 2 years ago.

Alaskan tokens, along with other Alaskana are in great demand, in the state and outside. The better tokens are bringing truly unbelievable prices. But why not. Rare tokens are a very desirable part of Alaskan history. A token is the only thing some people will be remembered for.

BOOK REVIEW

"YUKON TRADE TOKENS" by Scott A. Simpson and Leslie C. Hill.
Available from Leslie C. Hill,
P.O. Box 80129, S. Burnaby, B.C.
CANADA, V5H 3X5, for US\$4.00 or
Canadian\$4.50.

We were very pleased to receive from Les Hill a copy of the book that he co-authored with Scott Simpson.

Information is given on most tokens listed. The businesses are identified, and dates of business are given when known. Background information of the towns is also given. Modern issues of tokens are also listed.

Following the token section is a brief listing of medals. The authors expect this to be expanded with the next edition. One page is devoted to the Gold Ingots of the Dawson City Assay Office, of which only two are known to survive. This is followed by 2 pages of unattributed mavericks (one is discussed in a short article in this issue of ATC&PN). Overprinted banknotes, card money, and a Masonic Penny complete the book.

Illustrations are not the best (but better than ATC&PN), and the layout is at times hard to follow, but both are adequate. The authors make no attempt to place valuations on the items listed. As they state "A token that appears scarce today may be in abundance tomorrow". This is evident in the tokens that are dug up every summer.

In short, this book is a must for any collector of Yukon tokens, or any history buff studying the last great gold rush.

GRAND FORKS, YUKON TERRITORY

The new Hill/Simpson book on Yukon tokens lists a token from Brown's Cigar Store, Grand Forks. But Grand Forks, where. Grand Forks are known in North Dakota, Idaho, British Columbia, and the Yukon.

In the Yukon, Grand Forks is about 18 Miles from Dawson, and had a population of about 10,000 during the gold rush.

Evidence brought out by Mr. Hill and Mr. Simpson indicate that a Brown's Cigar Store is unknown in Grand Forks, N.D., ID, or BC. Unfortunately, no record indicates that it did exist in YT.

All we can add to the above is a bit of circumstantial evidence.

Firstly, a Brown's Cigar Store token was found on the runway in the town of Chisana, Alaska, which is 85 miles south of Northway.

Secondly, Freight bound for Chisana was shipped via the White Pass & Yukon Railroad, and according to one source, through Dawson.

This is, of course, all speculation. Positive identification becomes more remote every year. Perhaps a bottle digger will unearth something where Grand Forks used to be. This would be the best we can hope for short of a photo, or eye witness account. There is a lady in Fairbanks who lived in Grand Forks, but she left with her parents when she was 4 yrs. old. As she said, at age four, she wasn't much interested in cigars.

Any information that our readers may have should be directed to Les Hill, P.O. Box 80129, S. Burnaby, B.C., Canada, V5H 3X5

NOTE: ANY ONE WITH INFORMATION ON RUSSIAN SETTLEMENTS IN ALASKA PRIOR TO THE 1790'S SHOULD CONTACT COURTNEY L. COFFING, COIN WORLD, P.O. BOX 150, SHELBY, OHIO, 45367.

COIN CLUB NEWS

The Fairbanks Coin Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month except June, July, and August, when only one meeting is held on the 1st Wed. Meeting time is 8PM, and the meetings are held in the Dawson Room above Nerland's, entrance on 4th Ave. Visitors are welcome.

We know there are two clubs in Anchorage. How about some one telling us when they meet, and any other information that would be of interest.

NEW DISCOVERIES



Location Unknown: Don's Alaskan Log Cabin, 10c In Trade, Alum., 18mm. Probably not Alaskan. Shown here simply because it is an interesting token. Also, style appears to be similar to the ARRC tokens. Does any one know who made the ARRC tokens?



FAIRBANKS: Judy's Place. No information is available. Primary research shows only one business as Judy's, and that was a gift shop on 4th Ave. in the mid-1970s. 25c In trade, aluminum, 27.6mm

Your contributions are requested for this and other sections. One person cannot make this a viable publication.

NEW ISSUES:



FAIRBANKS: Fairbanks Coin Club, wooden dollar size 50¢ membership token. Available from the Fairbanks Coin Club, c/o P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, AK 99707, for 25¢ and Self-addressed, stamped envelope.

PRICES REALIZED:

Paul Cunningham, 3/31/79;
Shemya 50¢ Red Alum. (Curto
Sc593-50V) sold @ 3.15

No other Alaskan items in recent auctions. Next month should be a good one.

NEXT ISSUE:

A review of the new Curto, Book II, covering U.S. Military tokens. We will also try to compile a number listing of all Alaskan tokens listed.

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 3

JULY, 1979.

THE "BROWN'S CIGAR STORE" TOKENS by Leslie C. Hill



Obverse; Brown's Cigar Store(around)/ Grand Forks (below)
Reverse; Good For/ 25¢ / In Trade
Detail; Aluminum, Round, 29mm

This token was listed as Maverick #5532 and #8085 in TAMS Journal and then attributed to Grand Forks, No. Dakota on the strength of it being the only town of that name in the U.S.A. gazetteers. It is seldom that a maverick token can be positively attributed and mistakes will occur even among those acting with the best of intentions. We respectively suggest that this token is from Grand Forks, Yukon Territory.

There are four communities in North America known to have used the name Grand Forks, these being in Idaho, North Dakota, British Columbia, and Yukon Territory.

Grand Forks, Idaho can be discounted as it existed only briefly as a logging community in the early 1890's.

Grand Forks, N.D., being by far the largest of the three remaining communities has been checked out carefully, with the closest possibility being the confectionery and cigar business operated by Rogers & Brown from 1889 to 1903. It has not been established that Brown operated a cigar business separately from his partner.

Grand Forks, B.C., we have checked directories from 1899 to 1920 and found only two Browns in the hotel or allied business, in 1899 and 1904. A close check of local newspaper files for that period has failed to turn up any Brown's Cigar Store operating in connection with the hotels.

Grand Forks, Y.T. This gold mining camp came into being very shortly
(please turn to pg. 2, col. 2)

BOOK REVIEW

"MILITARY TOKENS OF THE U.S., 1866-1978, BOOK II", by James J. Curto

We were very pleased to learn of the publication of this book earlier this year. Perhaps the time lag between learning of this new publication and finally receiving our copy built our hopes too high.

Since we have Book I, we were expecting Book II to be of similar quality. While Book II will be as invaluable as Book I, it is still a disappointment.

The printing is small and at times the columns seem to run together. Illustrations are to be found only at the end of each "chapter", and these are only very few compared to the number of tokens listed.

The only improvement over Book I that we can see is the inclusion of an index. This will be of great assistance in locating any token that is listed. The index covers both Book I and Book II, and lists the tokens by their Curto number.

Also on the positive side is the scope of this work. The number of tokens listed is just amazing.

The book is a necessary addition to any token collector's library, and a definite must for the Alaskan token collector due to the number of military tokens that have been issued in Alaska.

EDITORIAL--A PROGRESS REPORT

We've made it to three issues!

In the coming months we will be bringing you articles on the following subjects:

Aug.- Ft. Davis

Sept.-Alfred PJ Ghezzi

Oct.- A.R.R.C.

Continued column 2

BROWN'S CIGAR STORE, CONTINUED

after the rich placer finds in the fall of 1896. and within a few years had a population around 10,000 persons, but declined rapidly as the area became panned out. Situated at the junction of the Bonanza and Eldorado creeks, it was about 12 miles east of Dawson City and was served for awhile by a narrow gauge railway line from Dawson. The camp has long since vanished. In the 1902 Directory under the Grand Forks Classified Business section a Wm. Brown is listed under Cigars & Tobaccos. One of these tokens turned up in Chisana, Alaska and another token was housed with six other Yukon tokens in an interior B.C. collection. An expert in the field of token manufacturing has stated that he believes the token is the work of a Seattle stamping firm. The reverse of this token is from the same die as the reverse of the Commercial (Hotel) token of Whitehorse, Yukon. For these reasons we feel that this token can reliably be attributed to Grand Forks, Yukon.

We appreciate the assistance and research time spent by J.M. Bertheuson, L. Egnew, and D.M. Stewart

EDITORIAL, Continued

This schedule is subject to change as we see fit. We will bring you one major article per month until we have sufficient articles on hand for 12 issues. At that time we can expand to 5 pages.

Since we are pretty well set for the rest of the year, we will offer a subscription for the final 5 months at \$1.75. If you wish to continue to receive ATC&PN, please remit at your earliest convenience. By doing it this way, all subscriptions will come due the first of the year.

Thanks to you folks out there, it looks like we are going to make. Keep those articles coming.

COIN CLUB NEWS

The Fairbanks Coin Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month except June, July, and August, when only one meeting per month is held on the 1st Wed.

NOTE: Due to the 4th of July being the 1st Wed., the meeting for July will be held on July 11th.

Meeting time is 8PM and the meetings are held in the Dawson Room, above Nerland's, entrance on 4th Ave. Visitors are welcome.

ANCHORAGE:

The Billiken Coin Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. at 7:30PM, May through August. From Sept. to April, meetings are held at 10AM on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays. All meetings are held in the basement of the Elmendorf A.F.B. Hospital.

The Ptarmigan Coin & Stamp Society meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7PM, in the basement of the Pioneer School House, located at 3rd & Eagle

All clubs feature a short business meeting followed by an auction. Visitors are always welcome.

NEW DISCOVERIES

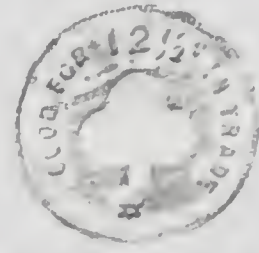
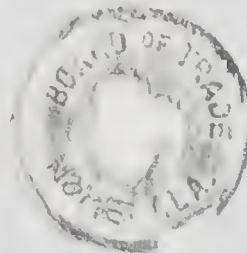
Don's Alaskan Log Cabin, identified by Lewis Egnew as being from Seattle.



FAIRBANKS: California, Martin & Koon, Good for 25¢ In trade. 28mm, Alum.

(Submitted by Lester Burzinski)

NEW DISCOVERIES CONTINUED



NOME: Board of Trade, Good for 12 1/2¢ In Trade, 24mm, Alum. Note that this token does not have the star between Board and Nome, and between Ala. and Trade, as does D-8.



MAVERICK: Pioneer Hotel Bar, Good For 1 Drink. This token was purchased with a lot of Fairbanks tokens. Any information would be appreciated. Token is brass, 24mm. (the above 2 tokens submitted by Lester Burzinski)

NAMING ALASKA'S NEW CAPITAL

An initiative petition has been certified calling for the new state capital to be named "Bulchitna-on-Deception Creek". To have this initiative placed on the ballot, 13,000 signatures must be obtained.

Deception Creek runs through the site selected by voters for the new capital, and Bulchitna is an Indian name for part of the area.

Backers say that the name expresses a growing Alaskan sentiment about government. They also feel that this will help to prevent the move of the capital.

Well that does it for #3. Hope you Enjoy it.

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 4.

AUGUST, 1979.



THE FORT DAVIS, ALASKA TOKEN
by Lewis L. Egnew
P.O. Box 123
Port Townsend, WA 98368



Being an avid collector of Alaskan Tokens and a specialist in military tokens as well, I was surprised to see a token on a mail bid sale which was described as Post Exchange/ Fort/ Davis/ Alaska - 5¢ In Trade. Knowing this was a totally unlisted token and location, I was doubly interested. Now that I have the token in my collection, I've been able to research its history a bit.

Construction of Fort Davis began in the spring of 1900 approximately 2 miles outside the tent city of Nome. The first troops occupied the fort this same year, being Companies A and K of the 7th Infantry.

Troops were rotated on a two year basis, judging from the records. In 1902, troops of Company B, 8th Infantry replaced those above. In 1904, Company D, 3rd Infantry replaced the 8th Infantry. In 1906, Company H, 10th Infantry arrived to replace the 3rd Infantry.

The Fort Davis token in my possession has small H's countermarked on the obverse and reverse. So, I

believe it to date to the 1906 period of the 10th Infantry.

Fort Davis was the first of the forts to be discontinued after the First World War. It was totally abandoned in 1921.

Information was gleaned from the USARAL publication "U.S. Army in Alaska." I am indebted to Dave Fronius for this publication and for his help.

A rubbing of this token is above. The token is aluminum. The "H" counterstamps are only 2mm (ed.note-not visable on rubbing).

So far this token is unique, the only one in any known collection. Though I have 30 or so unlisted Alaskan tokens, I still consider this one my prize.

ATC & PN is a publication of Numismatice Services of Alaska, Inc., P. O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
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GUEST EDITORIAL

The following was recieved from a person on our mailing list. It is an excellent answer to our editorial in the June issue. Some very relevent points and considerations. It was in the form of a letter:

Thanks for your answer to my letter.

Please do not send me the material (ed. note; price list and ATC&PN) as I have quit collecting anything from Alaska. The prices are just ridiculous. I think people are ruining a good hobby by putting such high prices on tokens. How will we ever interest young people into this hobby. I remember when I started collecting coins as a boy shining shoes on the street for 5¢. Part of it was spent on buying coins. Oh, what fun that was. To-day, no kid could have a job that would pay enough for him to collect coins or tokens without mother and father paying for them. That takes all the fun out of it. I hope all collectors take a good look at what is happening and refuse to be a part of it.

I really get tired of hearing people complain about how rowdy children are. We constantly rob them of all opportunities. We have become so money hungry that we care nothing for others. I'm concerned about what happens in this country. We all complain but none of us attempt to do anything about it.

* * *

The writer of the above letter wishes to remain unknown. We respect that wish.

We are in need of articles, editorials and any other sort of contributions. We made it a 5 page issue this time, but we will be back to 3 pages in the next issue unless we hear from some of you.

BOOK REVIEW

SIEG'S MØNT KATALOG, 1808-1978, 1979, 10th Edition, by Frovin Sieg, Ulberg Gl. Skole, 8832 Skals, Denmark.

This book is to the Skandinavian collector what the "Red Book" is to the collector of U.S. coins. It is a comprehensive listing of the coins of Skandinavia from 1808 to 1978. But more important to us, it is a listing of Polar items for this region.

In this edition, one finds listings for the coins and tokens of Greenland and the Faroe Islands, the coins of Iceland, and the tokens of Spitsbergen (oops, sorry, but Spitsbergen is not in this edition). Iceland tokens and those of Spitsbergen are not in this edition, but they have been listed in earlier editions, and will be listed in later editions, at varying intervals.

The main text is in Danish (a minor drawback) and there are chapter summaries in English. Prices are in Danish Kroner (presently about 20¢).

The book is card covered and printed on quality glossy paper. Those interested in obtaining a copy should contact Mr. Sieg at the above address. If you are collecting the polar regions, you cannot afford to be without this book.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH-Public Transit token varieties:

Note the BO in BOROUGH

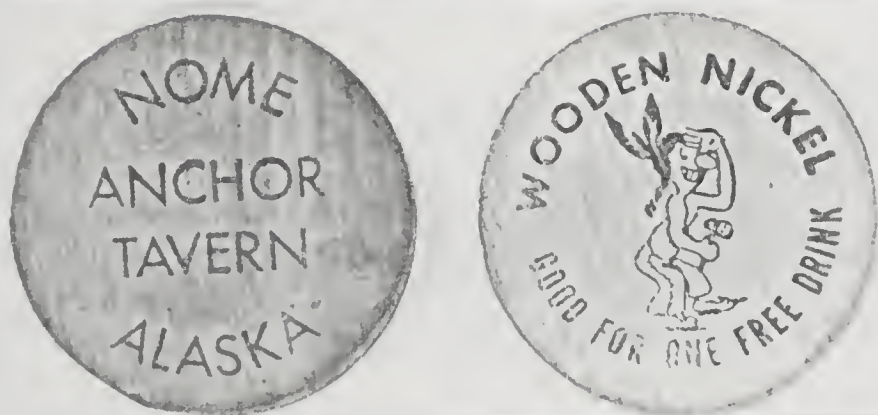
✓	✓
B O	B O
Type I	Type II

Type I is also known with a die break running through T of STAR, from the rim, to the circle around the star.

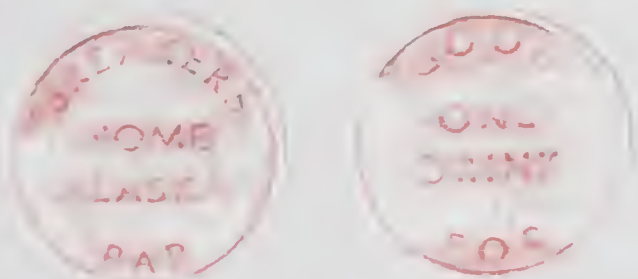
NOME - 1979

As many of you probably noticed, the July issue of ATC&PN was mailed from Nome. We went to Nome on a buying trip in hopes of building up our depleted stock. Unfortunately, the trip was much less than successful. We did find 3 tokens currently in use, 2 of which were previously unknown to us. They are all drink tokens.

The Anchor Tavern has had wooden nickels before, and illustrated below is the one currently in use.



The Breakers Bar, right next to the Anchor Tavern, has used wooden 5¢ in the past. But now, they are using a N/S composition token:



Finally, the Bering Sea Saloon is using a brass token that has been in use for some time. It is shown below only for the sake of completeness of the current tokens.



If one overlooks the disastrous buying trip, we had a very nice and relaxing weekend. We found Nome to be a very friendly town.

To my knowledge, there are only two restaurants in Nome. The one we ate at the most was the Polar Cub, right above the sea-wall. For evening dining, there is the Ft. Davis Roadhouse, about 2 miles out of town. Saturday evening found us walking along the beach going out to the Roadhouse.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the last building on the sea-side of town, Jan saw a 20 foot spruce log, with a huge burl, and simply stated "I want that." The tree was just a large piece of driftwood (1 free issue to the 1st person who can tell me where it came from, via the Bering Sea). In any case, we left it where we found it (in the surf) and continued on to the Roadhouse for dinner.

From what we were told, the Roadhouse is a short distance from the site of the old fort. It is quite large, as it must handle the tour groups that spend the nights in Nome. One dining room looks out over the Bering Sea, and another looks toward the hills behind Nome, out over the tundra. The food was excellent, and the prices much lower than expected. Jan was a bit disappointed as she wanted the crab and reindeer plate, but they were out of reindeer.

After dinner, we walked back to town along the road, past an old dredge. When we reached town, the first thing we did was head to the Alaska Commercial Co. department store, and purchase the cheapest wood saw they had.

The next morning found us on the beach sawing away, trying to beat the deadline of our 3PM flight back to Fairbanks, via Anchorage. If it weren't for the help of C.J. Phillips (who had befriended us earlier) and the use of his old, dull axe, the burl would still be on the beach.

PRICES REALIZED

Stack's, 6/1/79:

AK Fest. of Music, Silver 15.00
 Anch: Alpine Inn 25¢; Dairy 1 Qt.;
 D&D Bar 25¢, 50¢. as a lot 60.00
 Elmendorf Civ. Club 5, 10, 25¢, \$1;
 Fbks. Pedro Medal, Pastime Cigar
 Store 25¢; Juneau, Nugget; Port-
 land, Ore. Alaska Card Room
 as a lot 90.00
 Ketchikan: Aberc. 2¢, Hub 25¢,
 Nelson Hotel \$1, P 100 Points,
 Pastime Cigar Store, 5, 10, 25¢
 as a lot 60.00
 Nome: Polet Stores 5, 10, 25¢, \$1
 all fiber 60.00
 Seward: 2 varieties of 12½¢ Native
 copper, Palace 12½¢ 160.00
 Sitka: Elks AK Day 50¢, \$1, \$5;
 Hans Anderson 5¢; Skagway BPOE
 24mm and 29mm, as a lot 80.00
 Skagway: McCreedy & Elliot, set
 of 7 145.00
 Valdez: Copper Block Buffet with
 gold nugget 250.00
 Valdez: 12½¢ coppers: Buffet and
 copper block buffet 115.00
 (submitted by Ron Benice)

Cunningham, June 15, 1979.

Hudson Bay Co., set of 4 copper
 tokens, 1/8 MB to 1 MB 715.00
 AYPE 1DWT 143.00
 Alaska Gold, ½ Pinch 105.00
 Ketchikan D-41 14.00
 " D-61 16.50
 Juneau D-32 22.00

Joseph Lepczyk, 5/18-19/79

Greenland, lot of 9 pcs. 110.00
 " , Cryo. Mine 500 Y-2 35.00
 Valdez, D-6 135.00
 Bethel, D5-7 35.00
 Hudson Bay Co. Gingras-255 26.00

Presidential, 5/26/79

Shishmaref, D-3 24.00
 " , D-4 24.00

From the looks of the above, a few
 good buys were made, but mostly,
 prices are quite high. The price
 we can't believe is the HBC set in
 the Cunningham auction. We've seen
 these go for 1/6 of that price.
 Hope the set is as choice as stated
 Paul Cunningham knows his stuff so
 we rest assured that it is.

COIN CLUB NEWS

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 the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month
 except June thru August when only
 one meeting is held, that being on
 the 1st Wed. Meeting time is 8PM
 and they are held in the Dawson Rm
 above Nerland's, entrance on 4th
 Ave.

Wooden Nickel Coin Club (Eielson
 AFB) meets on Mondays at 7PM in
 Bldg. 2266, on Eielson AFB. Inter-
 ested persons should call Major
 Fanlain, 372-2211 to be sure meetings
 are being held during the summer
 months.

ANCHORAGE:

The Billiken Coin Club meets the
 2nd and 4th Wed. at 7:30PM, May thru
 Aug., and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays
 at 10AM, Sept. thru April. All
 meetings are held in the basement of
 the Elmendorf AFB Hospital.

The Ptarmigan Coin and Stamp Society
 meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each
 month at 7PM in the basement of the
 Pioneer School House, 3rd and Eagle.

All clubs feature a short business
 meeting, followed by an auction. Only
 members may submit lots for auction.
 Visitors are always welcome.

Subscription rates for the Alaskan
 Token Collector and Polar Numismatist
 for the remainder of 1979 (4 more
 issues) is set at \$1.50. Renewal
 notices will be sent to all subscri-
 bers with the December issue.

Back issues are available for 50¢
 each.

For those who subscribed to issues
 1-3, and have not sent payment for
 the rest of the year, this will be
 your last issue. We have trimmed
 our mailing list from 120+ to 45,
 and if need be will trim it more.
 If you don't want to pay for it,
 send us a contribution, as noted
 in earlier issues. We can surely
 use them. In any case, we would
 hate to lose you.

NEW ISSUES/DISCOVERIES

Below are some current drink tokens that are in use in Homer. While they aren't new, and are probably not a new discovery, to our knowledge, they are unpublished. Therefore, we are running them, compliments of Dave Fronius. All Plastic.



Salty Dawg Saloon, Red and Blue



Sterling Bar, Red and Green



Bayside Lounge, Tan. Also similar to above, using Bayside Lounge side, with LADIES/NIGHT on the other side, in Yellow plastic

Starting next issue, we will make space available to paid subscribers for research info requests. No buy, sell, or trades. No charges, just keep it brief. This is on space available basis.

U-2 CAN SCREW ALASKA

STATEHOOD COMMEMORATIVE KIT

CONTENTS: 1- Wooden Dollar
1- Screw

Directions: Select site for your National Monument and screw-it-to-it.



The above Wooden Dollar, Statehood Commemorative Kit is available from N.S.A. Inc., P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, AK 99707, for \$1 plus SASE.

Please Note: SASE must be in U.S. Postage. Otherwise, enclose 15¢ in coin. No Canadian postage, please.

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 5.

SEPTEMBER, 1979.



ALFRED P. J. GHEZZI



(Ed.note: The following is from the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, date unknown.)

Pioneer resident Alfred J. Ghezzi died yesterday at his home here after coming from New Zealand 67 years ago for a "visit."

In the meantime Mr. Ghezzi covered a lot of ground in Alaska becoming a miner, merchant, postmaster, trucker and all the other odd jobs that went with early day life in the far north.

Restless after service with the 10th New Zealand Mounted Rifles in the South African War he headed to Alaska nearly 70 years ago, and made Alaska his home here living out most of his later life in a home he built at 812 Pioneer Way.

He mined for gold in the early days, and was postmaster in Fairbanks from 1940 to 1943.

After that he was associated with his son, Alfred, in the trucking business that developed into the Alaska Freight Lines who pioneered much of early day trucking in the then Territory. The Alaska Freight Lines was later absorbed by Sealand. Son Alfred still lives in Seattle, while his daughter, Ethel Ghezzi has been on the surgical

staff of the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital for many years. Another daughter, Catherine, lives in the smaller states.

Mr. Ghezzi's wife, Catherine O'Leary whom he married in 1913 in Chata-nika died in 1959.

Mr. Ghezzi first came to America on the steamer Ventura in 1904 in Vancouver. He worked at quartz mining at Monte Cristo, Washington but in 1905 headed for Dawson City where he went into business.

In the merchandising business he also took over the gold scales weighing gold dust from the mines. His warehouse, filled with merchandises, failed in 1916 after a poor mining spring, so he re-established himself at Nenana, then the construction head of the Alaska Railroad, where he remained until 1934.

The Ghezzi's moved to Fairbanks in 1936 where they have lived since.

Funeral services were pending.



ALFRED GHEZZI

EDITORIAL

This month, we just have a few things to say in our editorial. Nothing of drastic importance, just some trivia.

Firstly, our appologies to any one who may have been offended by our Alaska Statehood Commemorative Kit. Coin World and Numismatic News have both rejected our classified ads for them. Undaunted, we wrote to them again, and Numismatic News has again declined to run the ad. We have not heard back from Coin World.

I talked to Cliff Mishler concerning this and he said that they would not run the ad because he felt it was a moral issue, and did not want to offend the readers.

We realized this when we ran it (and produced the product). Our sentiments about the Antiquities Act imposition are obvious. We felt that it was worth taking the chance of offending some of our readers to get the point accross.

That point is that Alaska is not being treated as an equal with the other 49 states.

The new, 1980 edition of the "Red Book" is now available. Alaskan token collectors will be the first to notice that the listing for the A.R.R.C. tokens have been omitted.

We are in need of contributions (gee, where have you heard that before). We have nearly enough material to continue with the 3 page format to the end of the year. New issues and discoveries are appreciated, but we would really like to have a different author for the lead article each month. If we can have that lead article every month from a contributor, we can probably bring you a 5 page newsletter. Let us hear from you. Our other readers will enjoy it too.

BOOK REVIEW

MEDALS TOKENS AND PAPER MONEY OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY by Larry Gingras, 1975. \$7.00

Serious collectors of HBC material are very familiar with Mr. Gingras' works. Of particular interest is this one concerning the medals, tokens and paper money of the Company. And, there is only one way to describe it-comprehensive.

The book begins with a brief history of the Hudson's Bay Co. It explains its origins and its purposes.

The medal section starts out with a discussion of the Indian Chief's medals. This is followed by Anniversary medals and Service medals. The HBC also prepared medals for presentation by the Vancouver Pioneers Association, and these are discussed. Of similar design to the V.P.A. medals was one issued for the British Columbia Musical Festival.

Of particular interest to history buffs will be the section on the loss of the M.S. Lady Kindersley, crushed in the arctic ice. Medals were awared "For Services Rendered in Rescuing Crew".

The token section starts with ivory, bone, skin and wood counters and proceeds through common as well as very rare tokens. Histories of the post issuing and using the tokens are given.

This is followed by the paper money section, which includes currency type notes and cardboard chits.

Rarities are assigned, based on the number known to exist by the author. Rarity 10 is the highest, refering to only 1 example known. Rarity 1 is common, or still in use.

This is a very useful book for the polar numismatist. Highly recommended.

METCA SHOW TO BE HELD SEPT. 29 & 30

The Merchant Token Collectors Association will hold its annual Token and Medal (and Wooden Money and Post Cards and Small Collectibles) in Seattle, WA, on September 29 and 30. It will be held at the Norselander Restaurant, 300 3rd W. Hours are 10-10 on Sat. and 10-5 on Sunday.

Last year, over 100 active exo-numists visited the show last year.

We are planning on being there, and are really looking forward to meeting some of our customers and subscribers. Can't guarantee that we will be there, but are going to try.

Those of you that might like to go, and possibly set up to sell, table fees are \$15 for both days and \$10 for just one day. You should contact Bary or Jan Bender, 752 N. 74th, Seattle, WA or phone (206) 782-5769.

If you would like to join METCA, you can contact Bary at the above address also.

See you in Seattle.

REASEARCH ASSISTANCE

We have just recieved 2 wooden 5¢ from Canada. They are 25mm in diameter and 6mm thick! The design is pressed or cut into both of them. Does anyone know who made these, and are they still in business?

Dave Fronius has two tokens that he would like some help with. They have been sold as being from Alaska in the past, although Dave cannot find any record for this.

The pieces are from the 83d RRSOU

INDEX FOR ALASKAN TOKENS IN CURTO

ADAK- N47 SC323
ALASKA COMMAND- M39
CAPE ROMANZOF- SC303
CAMPION AFS(743rd)- R719,720
CHILKOOT BARRACKS- B30 R477
EIELSON AFB- A79-81,A515-518 M48
ELMENDORF AFB- A83-85,A526-527 M40
M53
FIRE ISLAND- A99 A100
FT. DAVIS- F38
FT. EGBERT- F57
FT. RICHARDSON- F336
FT. WAINWRIGHT- F204-206, F367
INDIAN MOUNTAIN(708th)- R713
KING SALMON- SC429
KOTZEBUE- SC 434, CS435
LADD AFB- A188 SC441
MURPHEY DOME (744th)- A248 R721
R722 SC480 SC481
NORTHEAST CAPE (712th)- R714-715
SPARREVOHN (719th)- R344, R716-717
TATALINA- SC621
SHEMYA- A308-309, SC593-594
TIN CITY- SC629-630
WILDWOOD- SC680

** REGIMENTALS **

708th (INDIAN MOUNTAIN)- R713
712th (NORTHEAST CAPE)- R714-715
718th- R343
719th (SPARREVOHN)- R344, R716-717
743rd (CAMPION AFS)- R719-720
744th (MURPHY DOME)-R721-722
794th- R349, R728-729

NCO ASSN. One is for 25¢ and is red aluminum and the other is 5¢ in brass.

There were apparently Railroad Battalions in the territory during WWII. Any help would be appreciated:

Dave Fronius
P.O. Box 4-2812
Anchorage, AK 99509



COIN CLUB NEWS

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The Wooden Nickel Coin Club (Eielson AFB) meets on Mondays at 7PM in Bldg. 2266.

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All clubs feature a short business meeting, followed by an auction. Only members may submit lots for auction. Visitors are always welcome.

K.C.Co. Tokens

It has come to our attention that some folks are selling these tokens and representing them as being from Kennecott Copper Corp.

We have also seen them described as being from Fairbanks Creek, up around Cleary Summit and Chatanika.

They are brass, and have a BKT value, apparently for Bucket.

We "inherited" a piece when we bought the store. Rubbing is below. The 2x2 is market "Kirby Canning Co., Maryland. Used to figure number of baskets picked". It is our understanding that this is a hopps picker's token.

Our advise is to let the buyer beware!



NEW DISCOVERY



Shakan, Alaska: Alaska Fish & Lumber Co. \$10 in cash or merchandise. Brass, 31mm

Shakan was on the northwest coast of Kosciusko Island, off the northwest coast of the Prince of Wales Island. Post Office was established in 1886 and discontinued 1936.

The Alaska Department of Commerce reports the following:

Incorporated: Arizona, 11/5/1901
Filed in AK: 12/24/1901

Principle office: Tucson, AZ and
Mankato, MN

Office in AK: Shakan

Agent: Charles C. Carroll, Shakan

Duration: 25 Years from 10/21/1901

Stricken: 1/21/1916

Dissolved: 7/2/1916

(submitted by W.E. Nickell, Juneau)

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Subscription rates for the ATC&PN for the remainder of 1979 (3 issues) is set at \$1.00. Renewal notices will be sent to all subscribers with the December issue.

Back issues are available for 50¢ per issue.

We have a few "odd" subscriptions that do not run to the end of the year. Please beware that you do not miss out. We'll try to notify but can't guarantee this.

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 6.

OCTOBER 1979.

AN INTRODUCTION TO MILITARY CHITS
BY

VIC FICKLING
5231 14th Avenue So.
Minneapolis, MN 55417

The use of military chits, also known as trade coupons in some circles, has been worldwide in all of the service branches. The use of these dates back as early as the Post Sutlers (the early forerunners of the NCO and PX systems) and they may still be found in use in a few of the military installations today.

The first question usually asked is why were they used. The major purpose was to give credit to members of the clubs between pay days. Up until about 1969, military personnel were paid once a month and it was a long time between pay checks. This is no longer true, as in most cases they are paid twice a month. Each 'chit' book, on the first page, had a sheet which the member signed and gave to the issuing club when he asked for credit. The book was then issued to him for use within the club for food, drinks or other activities that may have been offered. At the end of the month or when pay day came around, he had to clear the account by paying it up. It was a very effective means of credit and over the years helped many a soldier out. Another purpose of

the books was by their presence effectively keep unauthorized people from using the facilities of a closed club. When a person entered the club, he would have to identify himself with a club card in order to buy chits which were the only type of money used in this type of club. This forced people to become members of the club and as such brought revenue into the club for their memberships.

These are the major reasons that chits were used, but a third also comes to mind. The use of MPC in the post WW II era in lieu of real money brought in a few problems not encountered before. Many clubs in Vietnam were staffed by local residents who were not allowed to 'handle' MPC even in the clubs in some areas. By using the chits, this problem was eliminated. A minor use of them during this period was also during what was known as C day. You woke up one morning and your money was no good. People from the Finance Section would literally in one day collect all of the MPC within the country and the next day (maybe longer) your bankroll was paid back to you in the new series. During this period of time, the club chits

continued on page 3

EDITORIAL

A big "thanks" to all who contributed, wrote in, or otherwise made this issue possible. We feel that this is the finest issue yet, because so many have helped out with their input.

A special thanks is due to Vic Fickling for a fine article on Military Chits. This is the longest article we have run thus far. You can all blame Vic for this having to be a 5 page issue.

Now, if only some of you that have a wealth of info that we haven't heard from would only share some of it with us, we would really get this rolling.

With a little luck, this issue will be mailed in Seattle, while we are at the METCA Convention. Hope to meet some of our contributors there.

Next month we will have some information on A.R.R.C. tokens from Lew Egnew. Have had this article for some time now, but didn't want this to look like Lew's publication! In December, we will bring you an article on the numismatic issues of Santa Claus House, in North Pole, Alaska.

North Pole gets a first day of issue on one of the new Christmas stamps this year, October 14th. Generally, you can get "First Day Cancellation" for about a month afterwards. Not sure if you can get it put thru the mail, but they do service the covers. If we can get it serviced and thru the mail, you will get an "FDC".

As for 1980, it is up to you. It will require 12 contributions of lead articles. In June, we will do a short article on some numismatic items relating to the Antarctic. October will be our Alaska Purchase issue. Any ideas for other special issues would be welcome. Any input of ideas, from format to content are welcome. Let us hear from you.

FEEDBACK- K.C. Co. Token

Re- your Volume I, Number 5, Sept. 1979, page 4, K.C. Co. tokens.

Your statement about their being Maryland tokens is correct. I have several varieties, including one which has the obverse as you picture it; and the reverse with:

KIRBY
CANNING CO.
TROPPE
MARYLAND

It isn't a "hops" pickers token, but a vegetable picker token. It was (K.C. Co.) located on Maryland's eastern shore.

It is a very common token.

Harry English
315 Grove Ave.
Falls Church, VA 22046

ERRATA-YUKON TOKEN BOOK.

Les Hill has informed us of the following errors in the book Yukon Trade Tokens, authored by Scott Simpson and Mr. Hill.

Pg 8, NAT&TCo, 50¢ is c, \$ is d
\$1.10 is e

Pg 10, Y097e is white
Y099d a yellow one is known

Pg 11, Y165 a & b are WM not N
Y170 \$1 should be d not c

Pg 12, Y190i should be green, not red

Pg 16, Y466a should be azure, not green

Thanks, Les. We know only too well how the gremlins sneak in!

LARRY GINGRAS RECIEVES CNA FERGUSON AWARD.

Coin World has reported that Larry Gingras has recieved the highest award the Canadian Numismatic Assoc. can bestow, the J. Douglas Ferguson Award. The award was made for his contributions to Canadian numismatic research, inparticular his research on Hudson's Bay Co. numismatics, and British Columbia.

MILITARY CHITS, continued

were the only form of money in use, along with the club slot machine tokens. I mention tokens here in that they also were an upshoot of the use of MPC in that paper nickels and the like don't seem to work well in the slot machines.

Now that we have a feel for why they were used, lets explore what they are. Club books can be very fancy or very crude depending upon who made them and the areas in which they were made. Many were ordered from printing firms here in the states. Others were made on the local economy of the area in which the club was operated. Books were issued in values of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 Dollars. That is not to say that other values of books do not exist. These were the normal values used. The chits are perforated for ease in tearing them out and look somewhat like a theater ticket. Normally, the chits are in the denominations of 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50¢. Again, other denominations exist (eg 4, 40 cents, \$1 and some foreign denominations) but the above are the more common ones.

As a general rule, larger denomination chits are found only in the larger value books. This varied from club to club, depending upon their policy. Each page has 5 chits (5-5¢, 5-10¢, etc.) and the number of pages in each book varies. Each denomination was usually colored differently, but books with all the same colored chits are not uncommon. The colors did two things for the parties who accepted the chits in the clubs. The first was to help to tell one denomination from another under adverse lighting and other problems. The second was to distinguish one series from another. Some of the chits have an expiration date on them in print (eg Void after 31 dec 70) but most did not. Each year (or other period of time deemed by the NCOIC/OIC of the club) a new series of books would be ordered and issued. These would have dif-

ferent colored chits which would invalidate the previous series. Many times the chits were identical except for the colors used to print them. I might add that the covers of the books changed with this, and many times different values of books in the same series had different colors.

Each book in a series has a serial number on it, as does each chit in the book. The numbers of the book and the chits in the book match, and no two books utilize the same number, within the same series. The chits are marked "Void if detached", meaning just what it says. The chits had to be removed either by a club employee or in the presence of one to be valid.

The use of the paper chits has declined in the past few years mainly due to the use of the new modern, plastic pieces (which we are all indebted to) called credit cards. This has brought about a more effective system of keeping track of club debts and is not subject to loss or destruction of the credit device, which could happen to the chits.

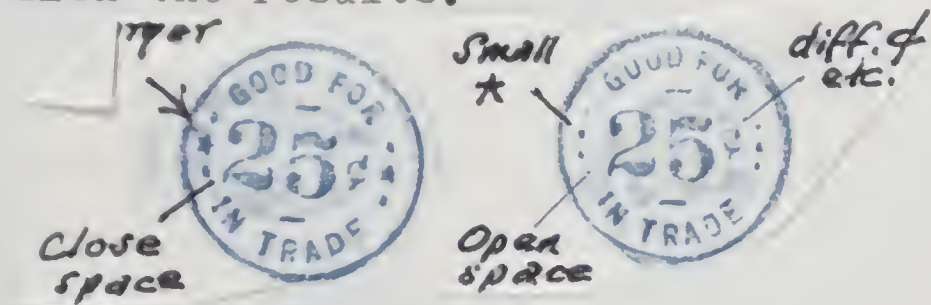
As a closing note, I might add that I did not give a description of each type of chit, in that they come round, square, you name it. The shape is not the general thing. Other systems besides the use of chit books was also used, but rarely, and each system would vary as to how it operated.

Questions or comments may be sent to

Vic Fickling
5231-14th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55417

FEEDBACK-ALFRED P.J. GHEZZI

Lew Egnew has sent rubbings of two varieties of the Ghezzi token. Note the differences, check the ones in your collection and let us know which types you have. We will publish the results.



NEW DISCOVERIES:



KETCHIKAN: The Pioneer, B. Barclay, Good for 5¢ in trade. 21mm, brass.



NENANA: Paul Lescure & Co., Good for \$10.00 in trade. 29mm brass.

(the above were submitted by Lew Egnew, Port Townsend, WA.)



NENANA: Nenana Trading Post, Good for \$1.00 in trade. 37mm, aluminum.

Subscription for the balance of 1979 is 75¢ for the Nov. and Dec. issues. Renewal notices will be sent to all subscribers with the Dec. issue.

Back issues: 50¢ per issue.

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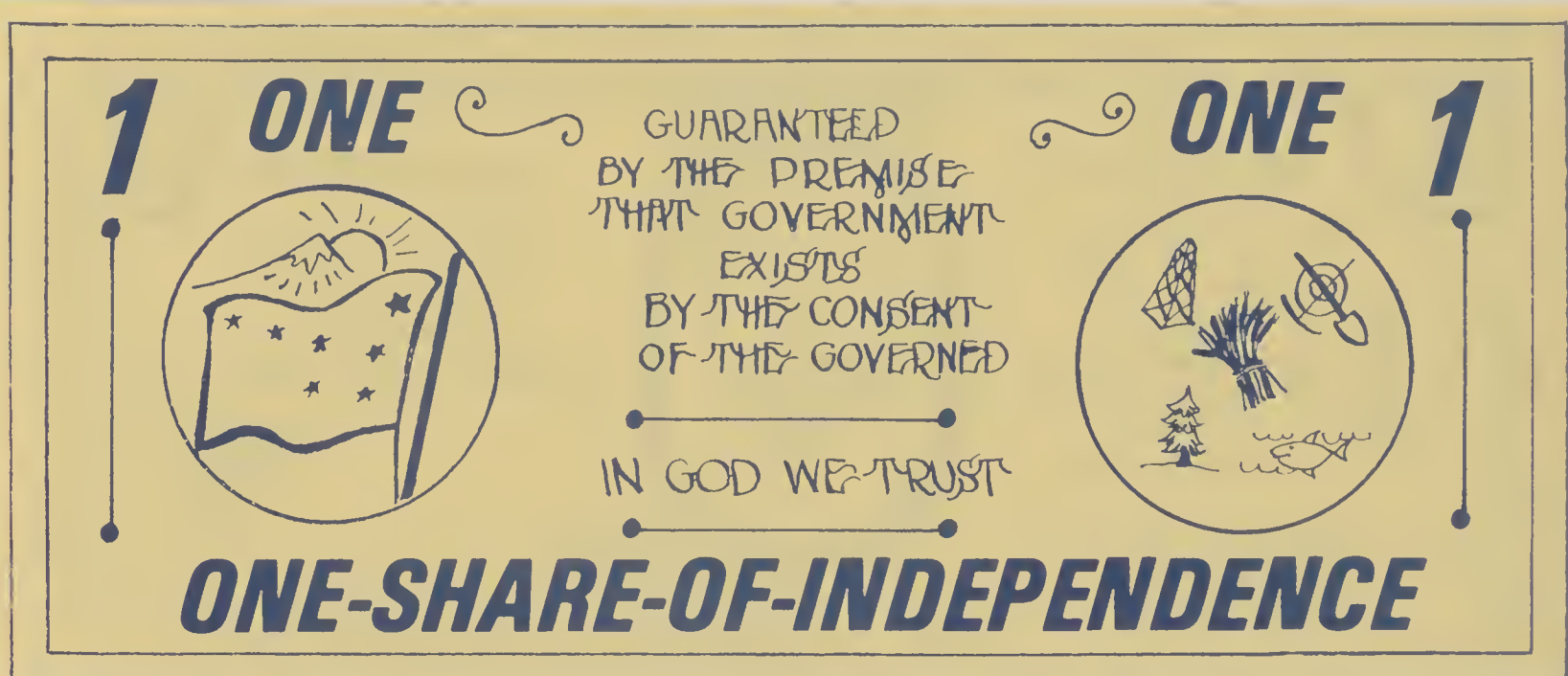
MATANUSKA DAIRY-INFO PLEASE.

We have had a report of tokens of this dairy being disposed of around 1972. They were reportedly thrown in the river.

This token is unknown to us at ATC&PN. Does any one have one? How about sending a rubbing.

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Space is available to paid subscribers for research assistance. No buy, sell, or trades. This is on a space available basis, but will probably make room for your requests.



Pictured above is an "advertising" bill from Alaskans for Independence. Their address is P.O. Box 7, Fairbanks, AK 99707. If you would like one, we recommend a donation of \$1, plus a self addressed, stamped envelope(SASE). The note is blue on yellow

While we are thinking about it, some of you may not know what SASE in an ad means. It is as stated above, a self-addressed stamped envelope. If the advertiser requests it, please have the courtesy to send it.

PRICES REALIZED.

We only noted one lot of interest in the ANA Sale this year.

This was a lot with two items in it. The first item was an imitation Spade Guinea, counterstamped HBC/H, (for Hudson's Bay Co./Hazelton) Gingras #215a. The second item was a bronze medal for the Board Meeting of the HBC, held in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.

Price realized on this lot was \$800.

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 7.

NOVEMBER 1979.

THE A. R. R. C. TOKENS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

The following information is primarily supplied by Lew Egnew. Also assisting are John Calhoun and Dave Fronius.

First, from a letter from Mr. Egnew:

"As for the ARRC tokens. I had thought that this info was well known, but it turns out that is not so. A recent TAMS article has much mis-information in it.

The tokens were struck in Seattle, WA at "Puget Sound Stamp Works", owned by Mr. Clarence L. Larson who was my boss. I was an employee of this firm until entering service with U.S. Navy after Pearl Harbor, and again for a short time afterward (about a year 1945-46).

If all I've read is correct, the date of the original striking is given as 1936, and ceased to be legal tender in 1938. There must have been two strikings. I was still in High School in 1936, but definitely remember striking the tokens in large quantities in 1939. I have furnished details to two different people who are researching this subject. Hopefully full details will be published by TAMS.

While on the subject of ARRC tokens there is one other thing which should be brought to the attention of all collectors. I have seen sets

Unc with proof like (polished) surfaces, and was once offered 300 sets by a party in Portland Ore. All sets struck by Puget Sound Stamp Works were plain business strikes without polished die surfaces. I strongly suspect these proof like sets to be restrikes.

The dies were sold as scrap when Puget Sound Stamp Works was required to move due to the construction of a new Federal Building in Seattle on the old business site. It was after this move that I was offered the sets at a modest price. When I called the proof like appearance to the attention of the seller - the deal was off.

All this leads me to believe the dies were salvaged and polished before being used again. No proof of this restriking has been possible, but the buyer should be aware of these facts."

Along these same lines, John Calhoun reports that he was offered 100 sets at \$100 per set, and then later 10 sets at \$125 per set. He also states that the sets that he saw were a "lighter color aluminum."

Finally, Dave Fronius reports that he found the man responsible for disposing of the Corporation Store's tokens. Like other Alaskan tokens, they were dumped in the river.

EDITORIAL

Our trip to Seattle was a success. Our subscribers can look for a new price list with the December issue of ATC & PN.

The Show was attended by people well known to tokens collectors. Among those in attendance were Lew Egnew, John Calhoun, Terry Trantow, John Cheramy, and Dave Fronius. Meeting these fine folks and others for the first time (except Dave, who is from Anchorage) was sheer pleasure. I've always felt that coin collectors in general are good people, and token collectors seem to be a cut above that.

Juneau was well represented with three collectors in attendance; Sonny Cranson, Joe Smith and Ray Mansfield. Al Love was also down from Anchorage.

Seattle area Alaskan token collectors in attendance were Jim Goff, Bob Keck, and of course Mrs. Mary Kopanski.

A tip of the hat goes to Bary Bender of METCA for putting together a fine show.

Many others, too numerous to mention were also in attendance. To all of you, thanks for making this a fine show.

We are going to try a new policy, to hopefully stimulate contributions. For the contribution of a lead article, you will receive a year's subscription. We need at present 10 for next year. So, for the first 10 that we receive, that will be used as a lead article, you will receive a free year's subscription. This notification will give you a little time to prepare one before payment becomes due for 1980.

Requirements for a lead article are as follows: (cont. next column)

EDITORIAL (continued)

- 1) be 1 page in length or more.
- 2) be on a polar, numismatic or related subject.
- 3) Illustrations not required, but receive preference. Rubbings are fine, as you will note that is what we generally use.

We will "edit" your article, but will print as close to the received copy as possible.

After the first 10 are received, you will be notified of your free year's subscription. This will not guarantee that your article will be a lead article. It just guarantees that you get your subscription, and we have 10 articles.

Any article received after the first ten will also be eligible for a free year's subscription. If your article "displaces" one of the other articles as a lead article, you will receive a year's subscription too. If it does not displace a previously received article, credit will be extended for a number of issues to be determined.

Correspondents are required in the following areas:

Southeast Alaska

The Yukon

Northwest Territories

Duties will be to report on new issues and anything else of interest. Four submissions per year will be required, and you will receive a year's subscription. Submissions must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ page in length.

Guest Editorials are very much desired. You should be tired of my views by now. Got something to spout off about. Put it in writing and get 3 free issues. Your spout-off must be pertinent to the content of ATC&PN, of course.

So how about it. Let's see what you can do.

ALCOHOL RATIONING IN GREENLAND

A few months ago we heard of a plan to ration alcohol in Greenland. So, always being interested in anything that can be vaguely termed numismatic, we started writing for information on this rationing program, in search of coupons, chits, etc. Here is what we have found out thus far.

From Inunnik Isumaginninnermi Qullersaqarfik (sorry, no translation), the rationing program started on August 1, 1979. A coupon system is used, but coupons are given only to residents and tourists. Furthermore, "The rationing coupons are strictly personally, non-transferable and could not be sold.

"We are aware of the fact that collectors might pay interest in obtaining samples, however, the above reasons obstruct our possibilities in that respect, even concerning coupons having been rendered invalid.

"For historical reasons the directorate has supplied the national museum in Greenland with a set of coupons, however we are unable to make further exceptions."

Harry Christensen, formerly of Nanortalik, Greenland, and now of Rødby, Denmark has more specific information. Alcohol rationing is not new to Greenland. Municipalities such as Scoresbysund and Thule have had various forms of rationing with the use of books, coupons, etc. The new rationing is nationwide, with local municipalities having the authority to set lower limits.

The normal, nationwide limit will be 72 "points". A beer will rate 1 point, while a bottle of hard liquor will be 24 points.

Anyone 19 years of age or older can pick up his coupons on the day of his birthday. If born on the

RATIONING (continued)

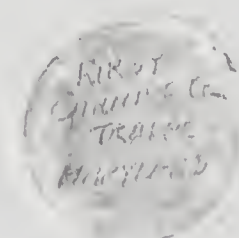
the 6th of the month, then the person would pick up his coupons on the 6th of each month. Mr. Christensen doubts "very much that many will sell their coupons."

Rum running, any one?

FEEDBACK- K.C. Co. Token

Ron Benice reports that these have been sold as Kuskokwim Commercial Co. He agrees that they are from Kirby Canning Co.

While on the subject of K.C. Co. tokens, we picked up one in Seattle and it is engraved on the back as shown below:



It should be noted that the last issue of ATC&PN reported the location as Troppe, Md. I should have read Trappe, Md.

Saw two pieces engrave as above, but only bought one of them. Also saw several without the engraving on the back.

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Subscription for the balance of 1979 is 50¢ (December issue). Renewal notices will be sent to all subscribers with the December issue.

Back issues are 50¢ per issue.

NEW DISCOVERIES:



JUNEAU: Occidental Hotel, John Olds, Prop. Good For 12½¢ In Drinks. New variety. Smaller planchet, different ornaments, obv. Alum. 24mm



NOME: Nome Novelty Co. Slot Machines, Dempsey & Dickey. Good for 25¢ in Cash, Wirth & Jachens (mfr) New variety. Larger Planchet, stars flanking 25¢, brass 23mm.

DAWSON CITY, Y.T. (no illustration) Diamond Tooth Gerties, gaming chip, white plastic, as 2nd series, Good for 25¢. See Simpson and Hill.

First 2 items submitted by Lew Egnew

NEW ISSUES:

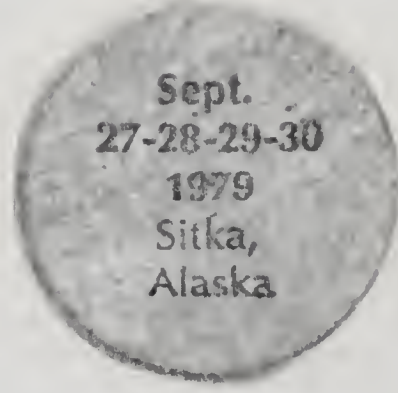


CAPE PARRY, NWT.: Not a new issue, being known to us, via Les Hill for about a year. Cape Parry is on the northwest coast of the Northwest Territories, also site of bird sanctuary. Can any one confirm a DEW Line station at Cape Parry?



NEW ISSUES (continued)

FAIRBANKS: Gold Pan Trading Post, Wooden nickel, Good for 5¢ in trd. Available free of charge, limit of 1, with stamped, self addressed envelope, from Gold Pan Trading Post, 1550 Cushman St., Fairbanks, AK 99701. Printed in green.



SITKA: Pioneers of Alaska, 63rd State Convention. Good for 1 drink. Sept 27-28-29-30, Sitka, AK. For use during the convention.

COIN CLUB NEWS

The Fairbanks Coin Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month. Meeting time is 8PM and they are held in the Dawson Room above Nerland's, entrance on 4th Ave.

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All clubs feature a short business meeting, followed by an auction. Only members may submit lots for auction. Visitors are always welcome.

Time for subscription renewals is approaching. Read the editorial!!

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(CLIP OUT THIS APPLICATION & SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY)

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME I, NUMBER 8.

DECEMBER 1979.



SANTA CLAUS HOUSE
NORTH POLE, ALASKA



One of the prime tourist attractions in the Fairbanks area, Santa Claus House was established in 1950 by Con Miller. They moved to their present location at about 15 miles from Fairbanks on the Richardson Highway in North Pole about 8 years ago.

Santa Claus House is of interest to the exnumist because of the several issues of encased cents and medals.

The first are the encased cents of 1961 and 1964. The Lincoln cents used in these are 1961-D and 1964. Mintage figures are not available for the 1961 issue, but 1000 of the 1964 were issued. The 1961-D is illustrated above, while the 1964 is on page 3.

Starting in 1963, a set of souvenir dollars were issued in silver and brass. Four issues were made, spanning 5 years. All were struck by Wendell's of Minneapolis. All are illustrated on page 3.

Common to all coins in the series

are the inscriptions to be found on the obverse. These are: Santa Claus House, Santa Land, Home of Santa Claus, and North Pole, Alaska. Also to be found on the first 3 coins of the series, on the reverse, is "Santa Claus House Inc."

The first issue, 1963, has a portrait of Santa Claus on the obverse and Santa's sled and reindeer flying over a house on the reverse. The reverse also states, "Good for \$1.00 in trade through Dec. 25, 1963 at," making this a trade coin.

This first issue saw 500 numbered silver and 5000 unnumbered brass issued.

The next issue is for a two year period, 1964 and 1965. The obverse shows a full, standing portrait of Santa, and it is marked No. 2, indicating the 2nd in the series. The reverse depicts a Christmas tree and, it adopts a new denomination. It is now a Santa Souvenir Dollar. This will be continued to the end of the series. There were 500 numbered silver and 5000 unnumbered brass.

(continued page 3)

EDITORIAL

Please read the book review in the next column before reading this editorial

Prices are, and probably will always be the prime area of dispute between buyer and seller. A catalog comes out, and if the seller is above catalog price, the buyer will let him know it. And if the seller is below catalog on an item, he will surely raise his price.

Mr. Ronald J. Benice has just authored "Alaska's Tokens", and it is complete with prices. Mr. Benice does an admirable job in a very difficult area.

His mode of pricing is fully outlined in his introduction. Established tokens get a higher price than possibly as rare, but not established tokens (by this we mean insufficient data). In general, the prices are very moderate. In our opinion, they are below what they would bring at auction.

We also think that fear of a hoard of a presently rare token appearing on the market is also a factor depressing the prices in the book. We know of one hoard of tokens, that recieved to high a value, and are suspicious of a few others.

Of prime concern are the tokens in the \$1 to \$5 price range. As dealers, if we offered those prices to some collectors, we would be laughed out of business.

Prices on scarce tokens range from about \$20 to \$100. Many of these would bring \$150+ at auction. But for how long. A realistic price is not set by a buyer who is "obsessively compelled to buy the token."

Realistic, but not perfect (but what is?) is the best way to describe the pricing in Mr. Benice's book. An excellent guide. Pay more or less, pay what it is worth to you.

BOOK REVIEW

ALASKA TOKENS by Ronald J. Benice.

Published by Token and Medal Society, 1979. \$15.00.

We have just recieved an advance copy of the book from the author, and, to put it mildly, are delighted.

Rarely will a book become available on Alaskan tokens (or any tokens for that matter), so this is indeed a pleasure. But, it is more than a book on Alaskan tokens. It is more of a brief history of the towns in Alaska, as told by the issuers of a token.

Most of the listings have a brief historical sketch of the issuers, and are cross-referenced to other localities if the person did business in more than one place. An attempt to give an approximate date is also made.

The catalog system is different from both Alaska's Coinage Through the Years and Roubles to Statehood. Of the three, it is probably the most logical. Within each locality, issuers are assigned a number, in alphabetical order. Each denomination and variety recieved a letter designation, A thru however many are needed. This allows for expansion of both the issuer listings and for new denominations or varieties.

The scope of the catalog is up to statehood, only. Some footnotes state that it is possible that an item may be post-statehood, mainly on the military items. Some of the transportation tokens listed in an appendix are also post-statehood. These are listed for the sake of completeness. Due to the fact that it is primarily pre-statehood, some items listed in earlier catalogs are omitted.

Needless to say, all Alaskan collectors will have to have a copy of this book.

SANTA CLAUS HOUSE, continued.

The 1966 issue has a half-figure portrait of Santa Claus on the obverse. The reverse has a fireplace scene with Christmas Stockings, and the quote "The stockings were hung by the chimney with care!" This is issue number 3, and it is so marked, but on the reverse this time. There were again 500 numbered silver, but only 4000 unnumbered brass.

The 1967 issue joins the multitude of Alaska Purchase Centennial commemoratives. The reverse inscriptions note the Alaska Purchase Centennial Exposition, held in Fairbanks, and also has its A-67 symbol. Also on the reverse are the U.S. and Alaskan flags, and the issue number (4). The obverse of this medal shows Santa at his desk, "checking his book of good little children".

This final year saw the number of brass issued drop to 2000, and the 500 silver were not numbered do to the many broken sets.



Santa Souvenir Dollar, 1964/1965:
Mintage: numbered silver, 500
unnumbered brass, 5000



Santa Souvenir Dollar, 1966:
Mintage: numbered silver, 500
unnumbered brass, 4000



Santa Souvenir Dollar, 1967:
Mintage: unnumbered silver, 500
unnumbered brass, 2000



Encased Cent, 1964: Mintage 1000



Trade Dollar, 1963:
Mintage: numbered silver, 500
unnumbered brass, 5000

DIMENSIONS:

Encased Cent: 40.7mm x 34.8mm
Dollars: 38.9mm

Silver medals are Sterling, .925
Fine.

NOTICE: Do not miss out on our special subscription offer. See the last page. Here is your chance to get Ron Benice's "Alaska Tokens" at a reduced price, plus ATC &PN.

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All Clubs feature a short business meeting, followed by an auction. Only members may submit lots for auction. Visitors are always welcome.

FAIRBANKS CLUB PLANNING SHOW.

The Fairbanks Coin Club is planning to hold its annual winter show on December 9, 1979. The times for the show will be Noon to 6PM. The show will be held in the Arctic Room of the Polaris Bldg., corner of 1st and Lacey.

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Subscription rate for 1980 will be \$4.00. See order blank on the last page for a special offer of Ron Denice's book with a subscription to ATC&PN.

NEW DISCOVERIES:



FAIRBANKS: G.F. Mayhood, 25c. Payable in Merchandise, 25c. Aluminum, 21mm. Can anyone help establish a date on this one?



MAVERICK: Yukon Hotel, Good for 5c in trade. Rev. just a large 5. Most likely not Alaskan or Yukon, but run because of the name. Any one know where it is from? (submitted by S.L. Tannenbaum).

ARTICLES NEEDED.

If ATC&PN is to continue on at least a 5 page format, we need at least 1 article per month, to run at least 1 page in length.

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